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# SCIENCE:

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## THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

IN response to an invitation issued by President G. Stanley Hall of Clark University, a preliminary meeting of psychologists from various institutions was held at that university, Worcester, Mass., on July 8.

The meeting was presided over by Professor G. S. Fullerton of the University of Pennsylvania. After a general expression of opinion as to the form of organization, it was determined to refer the entire matter to a committee consisting of President Hall of Clark University, Professor Fullerton of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Jastrow of the University of Wisconsin, Professor James of Harvard University, Professor Ladd of Yale University, Professor Cattell of Columbia College, Professor Baldwin of the University of Toronto.

This committee was authorized to determine the place, time, and programme for the next meeting and then to report a plan of organization.

It was the sense of those present that these gentlemen should constitute a council to be renewed by frequent elections and should choose from their own number an executive committee to direct the more urgent affairs of the association, and that the first three gentlemen named should act temporarily as such committee.

Sessions were held in the afternoon and evening, at which papers were read by Professors Jastrow, Sanford, and Bryan, and Doctors Nichols, Krohn, and Gilman. It was decided in response to an invitation from Professor Fullerton to hold the next meeting of the association in Philadelphia, at the University of Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 10 A.M.

Professor Jastrow was appointed secretary to provide a programme for that meeting. He invites all members to submit to him at Madison, Wisconsin, titles of papers with brief abstracts and estimates of time required for presentation.

The original members who were either present at this meeting or sent letters of approval and accepted member-

ship, are as follows: Frank Angell, Leland Stanford, Jr., University; J. Mark Baldwin, Toronto University; W. L. Bryan, Indiana University; W. H. Burnham, Clark University; J. McK. Cattell, Columbia College; Edward Cowles, McLean Asylum; E. B. Delabarre, Brown University; John Dewey, University of Michigan; G. S. Fullerton, University of Pennsylvania; E. H. Griffin, Clark University; G. Stanley Hall, Clark University; J. G. Hume, Toronto University; J. H. Hyslop, Columbia College; William James, Harvard University; Joseph Jastrow, University of Wisconsin; W. O. Krohn, Clark University; G. T. Ladd, Yale University; Herbert Nichols, Harvard University; William Noyes, McLean Asylum; G. T. W. Patrick, University of Iowa; Josiah Royce, Harvard University; E. C. Sanford, Clark University; E. W. Scripture, Yale University; Lightmer Witmer, University of Pennsylvania; H. K. Wolfe, University of Nebraska.

The following additional members were elected: Dr. T. Wesley Mills, McGill College, Montreal; Hugo Münsterberg, Harvard University; A. T. Ormond, Princeton College; Edward Pace, Catholic University, Washington; E. B. Titchener, Cornell University.

Professor Jastrow asked the co-operation of all members for the section of psychology at the World's Fair, and invites correspondence upon the matter.

## THE PEST OF FIELD-MICE IN THESSALY AND LOEFFLER'S SUCCESSFUL METHOD OF COMBATING IT.<sup>1</sup>

BY MEADE BOLTON.

THE valley of Thessaly was recently threatened with entire destruction of its growing crops by swarms of field-mice, which had suddenly appeared in such alarming numbers that the farmers and the government were at their wits' ends to discover efficient means to combat the pest. Several different poisons were tried at public expense, and it was also attempted to drown the mice out in some places; but owing to the difficulties of application and the inefficiency of these methods, it was found greatly desirable to look for other means. Pasteur was applied to by one of the large land-owners for cultures of some microbe which could be used to destroy the mice, and Pasteur promptly referred his correspondent to Loeffler in Greifswald, who had discovered a bacillus which would answer the purpose. Pasteur's answer was sent to the government at Athens, and as the attention of the government had already been called to Loeffler's work by the Grecian ambassador at Berlin, Loeffler was requested to send cultures to be used in the infested districts. Fearing that the tests would not be made in such a manner as to secure success, Loeffler informed the Grecian ambassador, that, although he was willing to give the cultures, he would prefer to make the experiment himself, provided his expenses were paid.

On April 1 Loeffler received notice that if he would come the Grecian government was willing to pay his expenses and those of an assistant. So, after being informed that the mice were of the kind<sup>2</sup> that he had found susceptible to infection with his bacillus, Loeffler and his assistant, Dr. Abel, set out with a supply of cultures on April 5 from Berlin, and arrived in Athens April 9. On going to the pathological laboratory he was shown some of the mice from Thessaly, and to his chagrin he found they differed from the

<sup>1</sup> Centralblatt für Bacteriologie und Parasitenkunde Bd. XII, No. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Arvicola arvalis.